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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/550,987	04/17/2000	BJORN I DANIELSEN	60021-356301	1832

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EXAMINER

KAZMI, OMAR A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 05/23/2003

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/550,987

Applicant(s)

DANIELSEN ET AL.

Examiner

Omar Kazmi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 April 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5.7.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

1. The listing of references in the specification is not a proper information disclosure statement. 37 CFR 1.98(b) requires a list of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office, and MPEP § 609 A(1) states, "the list may not be incorporated into the specification but must be submitted in a separate paper." Therefore, unless the references have been cited by the examiner on form PTO-892, they have not been considered.

### ***Drawings***

2. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: reference #235 of Figure 2 as well as reference #1312 of Figure 13, reference #1670, 1680, 1690, 1695, 1697, 1770, 1780, 1940-1960 of Figures 16, 17 and 19 were not described in the specification.

3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "1430" has been used to designate both swing workers and message receiver in Figure 14B.

4. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: reference #270 and 2070 as described on page 43 as well as reference #721, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, and 738 were not found within the drawings. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Specification***

5. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: on page 28, third paragraph, the applicant is suggested to illustrate difference between “list of sessions” 104 and “list of sessions” 106.

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-5, 7-12, 14-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moran et al., US Patent Number 6,018,346, hereinafter referred to as Moran. Regarding claims 1-3, 8-10, and 15-17, Moran teaches a method, computer-program, and system for displaying an activity window having an activity start data, activity start duration data, and activity status data as shown in Figures 20-22 as discussed on Col. 18, line 33 to Col. 19, line 54. Moran first teaches an activity window as seen in Figure 20 where an agenda item domain object (Col. 13, lines 55-57) activity is listed with corresponding agenda items 2001-2006. It is also clear that Moran teaches activity start data, as seen in Figure 22, reference #2201 and described in Col. 19, lines 29-32, where a clock domain object (Col. 14, lines 10-12) used with the agenda item object denotes the start time of the agenda. Also, Moran teaches the activity duration, as shown in Figure 22, reference #2202 and 2203 and described in Col. 19, lines 32-33, where the clock domain object used with the agenda item object displays the actual and allotted duration for the agenda and agenda items. Next, Moran teaches

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an activity status data, as described in Col. 18, lines 33-57 and shown in Figure 20-22, where stars (“\*”) or exclamation marks (“!”) mark the status of an agenda item’s status as pending or done.

Moran also teaches determining the status for the defined activity based upon the activity start time as seen in Figure 22, reference #2201 as well as the activity duration as seen in the third agenda item of Figure 22, reference #2204, where the time remaining for the agenda item, as well as the overall agenda (reference #2206-2208) is described in Col. 19, lines 39-54. However, while Moran teaches an activity window having activity start, duration and status data with a means to determine the activity start data and duration data, he fails to explicitly teach this *along* with a means for defining an activity in response to a user selection of a define activity button, wherein the defined activity is displayed in the activity window. However, it is clear that Moran defines an activity in response to a user selection of a define activity button, where the defined activity is thereafter displayed in the activity window and where it is clear that the defined activity is a categorization and brainstorming activity, as described in Col. 16, lines 43-67 as seen in Figure 15, reference #1501-1503. As described in Col. 16, lines 25-42 as well as Col. 16, lines 43-67 above, the Budget center summary object (Col. 14, lines 6-9) teaches defining an activity of categorizing and brainstorming in the form of coloring icons, where when the Color Pane icon 1503 is pressed, the cost-item icons on the page with category values of 5 have their color set to the currently designated color. This activity can also be interpreted as brainstorming as the pressing of the color pane allows the users to determine the category distributions, as discussed on Col. 17, lines 1-3. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the activity start, duration and status data of Moran to include the ability to define an brainstorm and categorization activity, and display in an activity window the color change of icons of Moran in order to obtain activity start, duration and status data with the ability to define and display an brainstorming and categorization activity when pressing a define

activity button. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify the activity start, duration, and status data of Moran to include the ability to define a brainstorming and categorization activity, and display in an activity window the color change of icons of Moran in order to provide the user of an meeting activity such as categorizing and brainstorming with the opportunity to see how much time an activity has taken, the activities current status and finally to determine how long ago an activity started.

Regarding claims 4, 11, and 18, it is clear that Moran teaches an activity to be defined as a voting activity as described in Col. 18, lines 1-23, where defining an activity for an voting activity consists on double-tapping the voting icon to create vote domain objects to be created as seen in Figure 19.

Regarding claims 5, 12, and 19, with respect to claims above, Moran teaches a manner to display message window capable of displaying user messages in real-time as described in Col. 20, line 59 to Col. 21, line 5, where a notes can be taken, and as each note is taken, the messages are beamed to Liveboard, where they are converted to a note domain object as seen in Figure 24. Thus, it is clear that Moran teaches display a message window capable of displaying user messages in real-time.

Regarding claims 7 and 14, Moran teaches a step of sending a defined activity to a specific participant user in response to the user selection of the specific participant user from a participant user menu as disclosed in Col. 21, lines 6-13 and lines 27-30 of Moran, where an action item such as a message activity can be sent to a user via e-mail to users, where it is clear that user is selected from a menu of person, as disclosed in Col. 21, lines 9-13.

2. Claims 6, 13, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moran, and Salas et al., US Patent Number 6,230,185, hereinafter referred to as Salas. Moran

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teaches a method, computer-program and system for listing activities as described in claims 1, 8, and 15 above, and Moran also teaches the user interacting with the database and how it is used in his system as described in Col. 6, line 46 to Col. 7, line 8. However, while Moran teaches this he fails to explicitly teach the step of being responsive to a submit button. However, this feature is known as supported by Salas, where Salas teaches that the received data is stored in a database, as disclosed in the abstract of Salas as well as illustrated in Figure 12 and described in Col. 15, line 50 to Col. 16, line 20, where a vote/poll item is created and sent to a database in order for the vote/poll item to be voted upon by other users, where the finish button #1250 can be interpreted as a submit button. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the activity window and activity status, duration and start data of Moran to update the defined activity to a database in response to user selection of a submit button as taught by Salas in order to obtain a manner to submit an activity window to display an activity window with corresponding activity data from a accessible database. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify the activity window and activity status, duration and start data of Moran to include the ability to update the defined activity to a database in response to user selection of a submit button as taught by Salas in order to provide a manner to define activities online by having a user submit the defined activities to be accessed on a accessible database.

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teaches collaborative networks where the user are able to perform an activity, exchange files and ideas as well as administrative functions such as meeting minutes and meeting coordination.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Omar Kazmi whose telephone number is 703-305-4894. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on 703-308-3116. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

OK  
May 16, 2003

*Kristine Kincaid*  
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